

Western Area Power Administration  
Comments on CALFED Phase II Interim Report  
2/25/98

Page 1

Insert new paragraph between existing paragraph 1 and paragraph 2.

Within the watersheds supplying the Bay-Delta estuary, natural river flows have been extensively modified over the past 200 years to provide water for various human activities, beginning with agriculture and mining. Urbanization of California and the industrial revolution created needs for flood control and municipal water supplies. The Federal Central Valley Project and State Water Project were built to provide river regulation, improvements in navigation and flood control, water supplies for irrigation and municipal and industrial uses, and hydropower generation. The CVP and SWP and other smaller water storage and diversion projects within the solution area continue to provide these benefits, but attendant adverse effects on ecological processes, water quality, and channel stability have become apparent over time. The challenge facing the CALFED Bay-Delta Program is to improve the adverse conditions affecting the water projects while retaining and, where possible, enhancing the project benefits.

Page 34, bottom paragraph

Revise as follows:

**Effects on Hydropower Generation** - The CALFED Program has no specific objectives for hydropower generation. However, the Program does seek to minimize impacts on other resources, such as hydropower generation, during and after implementation. The Program may result in temporary or long-term changes in river and reservoir operations, which may affect the quantity, timing and value of hydropower produced within the Bay-Delta solution area. Also, additional pumping may increase the amount of Project Energy Use, that is, power consumed by the CVP and the SWP to move water through the system. An increase in Project Energy Use can reduce the amount of surplus hydropower that might otherwise be available for sale from the CVP (necessary to repay Project debt), and may increase the amount of power that must be purchased from outside sources to meet SWP Project Energy Use. Replacement for reduced availability of renewable hydropower would likely come from fossil fuel or other thermal generation. The Program is coordinating with the Western Area Power Administration to assure that issues are identified and properly framed, so consequences and options are clear to stakeholders, the public, and the CALFED decision-makers.

Page 51, 3rd paragraph, last sentence

Change sentence to read as follows:

Other issues such as adverse effects of third parties and fish and wildlife, land subsidence, costs of electric power for pumping, and degradation of water quality in aquifers must be addressed before implementing any groundwater storage program.